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CLAIMS

1. A device for use in the electrochemical analysis of an analyte in a liquid sample, which comprises:
5 a non-conducting substrate;
 a conductive layer, deposited on the substrate, in two parts, defining a non-conducting gap therebetween;
 an analyte-specific reagent coated on the conductive layer, on one side of the gap;
10 a reference electrode on the conductive layer, on the other side of the gap;
 a spacer layer deposited over the conductive layer;
 a monofilament mesh coated with a surfactant or chaotropic agent, the mesh being laid over the reagent, the reference electrode and the spacer layer; and
15 a second non-conductive layer, adhered to the mesh layer, but not coextensive therewith, thereby providing a sample application area at one edge of the mesh.
2. A device according to claim 1, wherein the reagent is free of filler having both hydrophobic and hydrophilic surface regions.
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3. A device according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the analyte is glucose and the reagent is glucose dehydrogenase.
4. A device according to any preceding claim, wherein the mesh is treated with a surfactant.
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5. A device according to any preceding claim, wherein the mesh is additionally coated with a cell lytic agent.
6. A device according to any preceding claim, wherein the conductive layer comprises graphite particles, carbon particles and a polymer binder.
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7. A device according to claim 6, wherein the graphite particles have an average size of 1-20 μm and a surface area of 1-50 m^2/g , and the carbon particles have an average size of 5-70 nm and a surface area of less than 150 m^2/g .

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10. A method for the electrochemical analysis of an analyte in a liquid sample, which comprises applying the sample to the application area on a device according to ^{Claim}, ~~any~~ preceding claim, and quantifying the analyte by reaction 5 with the reagent.

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